

(Hartford) – Building on his announcement yesterday of a new round in the Connecticut Job Match Initiative, **Congressman John B. Larson** helped kick off Connecticut's Manufacturing Month today, joining over 500 students at the Hartford Armory for Manufacturing Mania Education Day.

"For over 150 years Connecticut has been home to some of the world's greatest, most innovative manufacturers. Manufacturing is in our DNA. And our businesses need skilled workers to help continue that great tradition for the state," Congressman Larson said. "That's why events like today's Manufacturing Mania Day - and the Job Match program - are so important. We should be doing everything we can to encourage everyone who's interested to develop the skills they need for a great career in manufacturing."

Manufacturing Mania Education Day, which coincides with National Manufacturing Day, was hosted by the Connecticut Dream It, Do It Initiative, which is intended to help strengthen Connecticut's future manufacturing workforce. The event is intended to help students from across Connecticut learn more about manufacturing.

Yesterday in Bristol, Congressman Larson announced that there will be a third CT Manufacturing Job Match Event on November 15th in New Britain. At the event, manufacturing companies from around Connecticut will meet with manufacturing job seekers to match current job openings with candidates that offer a specific set of skills.

"With over 4,800 manufacturers that employ nearly 170,000 workers here in Connecticut alone, this Manufacturing Month we must recognize that a strong manufacturing sector is an important part of both Connecticut and our nation's economic success," Larson added. "That's why I created the Job Match Initiative, and why it's vital that we work with today's students to encourage them to look at a career in manufacturing. I applaud Dream It, Do It for their efforts and I look forward to continuing our work to strengthen manufacturing here in Connecticut."

For additional information or to register for the job match event, please visit <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/JobMatch/MfgJobMatch.htm>

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